

**OUTGOING
TELEGRAM**

INDICATE: COLLECT
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Department of State

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For Merchant

Origin

Info: Murphy not yet returned but after examining position paper forwards following suggestions for consideration in Paris:

1. As to timing of reply to Soviet note: Berlin issue will be factor in January Party Congress in Moscow, and consideration should be given whether Western reply should precede or follow Congress. Superficially would seem safer to send reply after Congress meeting in hope gleaning some information from Congress useful in framing of reply. This added argument in favor interim reply suggested by Secretary.

2. Consider as affirmative counterproposal (a) possibility of establishing capital of Fedrep in West Berlin, and (b) supplementing this, Fedrep, with authorization of three occupying powers could station a military force in Berlin to provide local security in cooperation with Allies. This would illuminate for Soviet benefit seriousness with which

West regards Soviet clumsy effort to start chain of events to detach Germany from NATO and smash alliance. Psychologically we have real opportunity

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Clearance: **SECRET** S/S:Mr. Skofield

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[opportunity to show constructive aggressiveness in form of progressive step toward genuine democratic reunification Germany. Would also provide something for Germans to shoulder as a responsibility, offsetting their present tendency to exhort West to stand fast.

Germans argue against Berlin as capital security considerations involved transmission documents through corridor, as well as risk of seizure of Defense Ministry in West Berlin by Soviets. If Germans willing to establish capital Berlin, Three Powers could guarantee safety of communications and security of the German establishment in Berlin.

3. As concerns site for drafting reply, recommendations against Bonn impressive.

4. Important we make clear our intention not to perpetuate military occupation beyond democratic reunification of Germany. This relevant to restatement in 3(3) of position paper re Soviet obligation to remain as occupying power.

5. See no advantage in making such a premature offer as embodied in 3(b) 2 to effect we willing to permit Germans from either side to participate in four-power discussions.

6. As to 3(b) (5) we should not suggest we recognize achievement of reunification will be long and difficult. Permits Soviets to say we are delaying reunification. Tone should be insistence our part on immediate progress. Let Soviets say will be long and difficult.

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7. We should not ignore, in our reply, charges of connivance with Hitler in Soviet note, and should devote stinging paragraph to Molotov-Ribbentrop Agreement which really touched off World War II.

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